drug 'Cancer Gaza Kesari' has been subjected to pre-clinical safety studies by CCRAS. In 1996 a pilot project was sanctioned by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to study the effects of metal based formulations prepared by Vaidya Balendu Prakash of Dehradun in the treatment of Acute Pro-Myllotic Leukemia (APML). In addition, clinical trials of AYUSH QOL — 2C developed by CCRAS for improvement of quality of life those receiving chemotherapy/radio-therapy have been initiated at St. Johns medical college, Bangalore and the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi.

New PG programmes in Rajiv Gandhi Government Ayurvedic College, Paprola

2346. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has approved new post graduate programmes for 'panchkarma' 'rog nidan', 'bal rog', 'swasth brit' and 'dravya gun' in Rajiv Gandhi Government Ayurvedic College, Paprola;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount allocated to Himachal Pradesh Government to introduce these programmes;

(d) whether it is a fact that there is a acute shortage of teaching staff in Paprola college;

(e) whether the shortage of teaching staff would not make an adverse effect on studies of students who choose these newly introduced courses; and

(f) if so, the instructions Government has issued to State Government to fill up these vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes. Central Government has approved new P.G. courses in five subjects namely Panchakarma', 'Rog Nidan', 'Bal Rog', 'Swasthya Vritta' and 'Dravya Gun' with 3 seats in each subject with effect from academic session 2009-10

(c) No funds have been released so far exclusively for introducing these courses. However, the Central Government has released a sum of Rs. 646.80 Lakh to the State Government/State Health Societies for development of Rajiv Gandhi Government Ayurvedic College, Paprola under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely 'Development of AYUSH Institutions' during the period 2003-04 to 2007-08.

(d) to (f) The college has 53 eligible teachers as against 47 teachers required as per the norms of Central Council of Indian Medicines for conducting existing Bachelor of Ayurvedic Medicines and Surgery (BAMS) Course with intake capacity of 50 students and 6 post graduate courses with intake capacity of 24 students. Approval for 5 new PG courses has been given subject to the condition that the college will ensure required qualified teachers in each new Post graduate course as per the CCIM norms before admitting the students.